



1773

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant (s): Vyacheslav D. Grinshpun et al.

Serial No.: 09/706,110

Group Art Unit: 1773

Filed: 3 November 2000

Examiner: Sheeba Ahmed

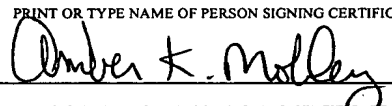
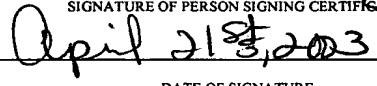
For: HOLLOW STRANDFOAM AND PREPARATION THEREOF

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GROUP 1700

APR 30 2003

RECEIVED

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231, ON: April 21, 2003 DATE OF DEPOSIT Amber K. Mobley PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATE  SIGNATURE OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATE  DATE OF SIGNATURE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Official Action dated 18 February 2003 (Paper Number 7), please amend the specification and claims as detailed hereinafter and reconsider the claims in view of the arguments presented hereinafter.

Claims 1-24 are pending in the above Application. Claims 1-13 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 14, 15 and 17-24 are rejected and Claim 16 is objected to.

Amendments

In the Claims

Applicants rewrite Claim 16 as an independent claim and incorporate the limitations of base Claim 14 and intervening Claim 15. In doing so, Applicants cancel Claims 14 and 15. Applicants amend Claims 17-22 and 24 to make them depend from amended Claim 16 rather than Claim 14. Applicants also add new Claims 25-33, all of which